

Preface

Dear Congress participants,

Changes in economic and market conditions of mineral raw materials in recent years have greatly increased demands on the efficiency of mining production. This is certainly true of the coal industry. World coal consumption is growing faster than other types of fuel and in the past year it exceeded 7.6 billion tons. Coal extraction and processing technology are continuously evolving, becoming more economical and environmentally friendly. “Clean coal” technology is becoming increasingly popular. Coal chemistry, production of new materials and pharmacology are now added to the traditional use areas—power industry and metallurgy. The leading role in the development of new areas of coal use belongs to preparation technology and advanced coal processing. Hi-tech modern technology and the increasing international demand for its effectiveness and efficiency put completely new goals for the University. Our main task is to develop a new generation of workforce capacity and research in line with global trends in the development of science and technology to address critical industry issues.

Today Russia, like the rest of the world faces rapid and profound changes affecting all spheres of life. The defining feature of modern era has been a rapid development of high technology, intellectual capital being its main asset and resource. The dynamics of scientific and technological development requires activation of University research activities. The University must be a generator of ideas to meet the needs of the economy and national development. Due to the high intellectual potential, University expert mission becomes more and more called for and is capable of providing professional assessment and building science-based predictions in various fields.

Coal industry, as well as the whole fuel and energy sector of the global economy is growing fast. Global multinational energy companies are less likely to be under state influence and will soon become the main mechanism for the rapid spread of technologies based on new knowledge. Mineral resources will have an even greater impact on the stability of the economies of many countries. Current progress in the technology of coal-based gas synthesis is not just a change in the traditional energy

markets, but the emergence of new products of direct consumption, obtained from coal, such as synthetic fuels, chemicals and agrochemical products. All this requires a revision of the value of coal in the modern world economy.

I believe that the Congress ICPC-2016 made a great contribution in promoting new knowledge, breakthrough technologies in a field of coal preparation and time-sensitive approach to resource conservation of the world.

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XVIII International Coal Preparation Congress

28 June—01 July 2016 Saint-Petersburg, Russia

Litvinenko, V. (Ed.)

2016, XXXVIII, 1196 p. 677 illus., 300 illus. in color. In 2 volumes, not available separately., Softcover

ISBN: 978-3-319-40942-9